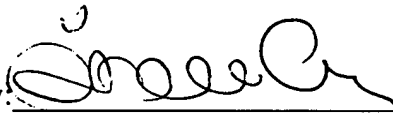


REMARKS

Page 13 has been amended to remove an extraneous and informal word and brackets that were inadvertently left in an electronic draft and, subsequently, inadvertently filed with this application. The amendment does not add subject matter, change the scope of the invention, or otherwise affect the content of the application.

Dated: 14 March 2002

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Marked-Up Amendment to Page 13 of the Specification

352 are arranged in an array-like fashion about a centrally disposed aperture 346 defined through end cap 340. Preferably, detents 352 project from face 342 to engage the underside of the vertebral bodies 202, 204. [[LARRY:] It is envisioned that the detents 352 may project from face 342 at varying angles relative to the face 342 which may facilitate insertion and/or improve subsidence of the cage 10 into the vertebral bodies 202, 204.[]]

FIG. 4B shows another embodiment of an end cap 440 having a plurality of apertures 446 disposed through the face 450 thereof. Preferably, a plurality of spike-like detents 452 are arranged radially about the periphery of the face 450 proximate outer rim 442. As best illustrated in a comparison of FIGS. 4A and 4B, the detents 352, 452 may vary in size and dimension depending upon a particular purpose or to achieve a desired result.

FIG. 4C shows yet another embodiment of a C-Shaped end cap 540 having two opposing edges 541a and 541b which define a slit 549 therebetween. The end cap 540 also includes a face 550 having outer and inner peripheries 542 and 547, respectively. The inner periphery 547 defines a central aperture 546 therethrough which provides a passageway for the bone growth inducing substances which are used to promote fusion as mentioned above. A plurality of arcuately-shaped wedges 552 having a generally triangular cross section extend outwardly from the proximal face 550 and serve to anchor the cage 10 (once assembled with the end cap 540) to the underside of the vertebral bodies 202, 204